Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 067617
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ALATHERTON:BH
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
S/S-O:SRPVALERGA
IO:WMAYNES (SUBS)
----------001686 160454Z /23
O 160334Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 067617

EXDIS, FOR CHARGE FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, IS, US

SUBJECT:SOUTH LEBANON

YOU SHOULD SEE PRIME MINISTER BEGIN URGENTLY TO CONVEY
FOLLOWING TO HIM:

-- WE HAVE BEEN GIVING URGENT CONSIDERATION TO THE SITUA-
TION RESULTING FROM SATURDAY'S TERRORIST ATTACK AND
ISRAEL'S MILITARY OPERATION IN SOUTH LEBANON, AND TO
BROADER IMPLICATIONS FOR OUR COMMON OBJECTIVES. WE HAVE
SOUGHT IN OUR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE STATEMENTS TO SHOW UNDER-
STANDING OF SECURITY PROBLEM POSED FOR ISRAEL BY PRESENCE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 067617

OF PALESTINIAN ARMED FORCES IN SOUTH LEBANON.

-- WE APPRECIATED MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER CONVEYED
BY AMBASSADOR DINITZ THROUGH ATHERTON THIS EVENING THAT
ISRAEL HAS NO INTENTION OF STAYING IN SOUTHERN LEBANON
AND WILL WITHDRAW WHEN IT HAS AN AGREEMENT AND ARRANGEMENT
TO ENSURE THAT TERRORISTS WILL NOT RETURN TO THAT AREA.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

-- AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE KIND OF IRON-CLAD ASSURANCES ISRAEL SEEKS AS A CONDITION FOR WITHDRAWAL ARE FEASIBLE, ALTHOUGH WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT

TO OBTAIN THE BEST ARRANGEMENTS POSSIBLE.

-- AS WE ANALYZE MATTERS, AN EARLY SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IS A NEAR CERTAINTY, IN WHICH THERE WILL BE STRONG PRESSURES FOR A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAELI MILITARY ACTION AND CALLING FOR UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL.

-- IT IS OUR INTENTION TO RESPOND BY INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL AND THE INTRODUCTION OF UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES INTO THE AREA FROM WHICH ISRAEL WITHDRAWS.

-- WHILE WE WILL OPPOSE UNILATERAL CONDEMNATION OF ISRAELI ACTION, WE CANNOT VETO A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. FOR ONE THING, CONTINUED ISRAELI PRESENCE IN LEBANON WILL PUT IN GREAT JEOPARDY SADAT'S ABILITY TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND CAN ONLY STRENGTHEN THOSE FORCES IN THE AREA, BACKED BY THE SOVIETS, WHO OPPOSE PRESENT NEGOTIATING PROCESS. IN ADDITION, WE CANNOT BE SEEN TO BE WEAKENING IN OUR COMMITMENT TO SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF LEBANON EVEN

THOUGH LEBANESE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN TOO WEAK TO STABILIZE AND EXERT ITS AUTHORITY IN THE SOUTH. A FINAL CONSIDERATION IS THAT WE EXPECT SERIOUS QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED IN CONGRESS OVER THE ISSUE OF ISRAELI USE OF U.S. ARMS ON A PROTRACTED BASIS ON LEBANESE TERRITORY, AND WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HOLD OFF LONG SENDING THE REQUIRED NOTIFICATION ON THIS SUBJECT TO THE CONGRESS.

-- FOR ALL THESE REASONS, WE MUST URGE THAT ISRAEL MAKE A PROMPT DECISION TO WITHDRAW AND ANNOUNCE THIS PUBLICLY. IT WOULD BE FAR BETTER, IN OUR VIEW, FOR ISRAEL TO DO THIS BEFORE, RATHER THAN AFTER A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR SUCH WITHDRAWAL--A RESOLUTION WHICH THE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE TO VOTE FOR.

-- FOR OUR PART, WE INTEND TO WORK VIGOROUSLY FOR AN OUTCOME THAT CAN INSULATE THE BORDER ON THE LEBANESE SIDE AGAINST PALESTINIAN ARMED GROUPS THROUGH THE INTRODUCTION OF AN EFFECTIVE UN FORCE WHICH IN TURN CAN PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE GRADUAL EXTENSION OF LEBANESE GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY TO THAT AREA.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

-- WE HAVE RESISTED URGINGS TO ISSUE PUBLIC STATEMENT TODAY ABOUT OUR POSITION IN ORDER FIRST TO CONVEY OUR VIEWS TO ISRAEL. WE WILL NEED TO SAY SOMETHING TOMORROW ALONG FOLLOWING LINES, "WE TRUST ISRAEL WILL BE WITHDRAWING IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE, AND WE ARE SEEKING

ARRANGEMENTS THAT WILL ENSURE STABILITY AND SECURITY IN THE REGION FOLLOWING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL."

-- THE PRESIDENT LOOKS FORWARD TO HIS TALKS NEXT WEEK WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN BUT DOES NOT BELIEVE THE SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION, WITH ITS POTENTIALLY ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE PEACE PROCESS, CAN WAIT UNTIL THEN TO BEGIN A RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM.

SECRET

SECRET

VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BRIEFING MATERIALS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE067617
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ALATHERTON:BH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780116-0685
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780359/aaaabxqt.tel
Line Count: 137
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6ddaa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3302486
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON YOU SHOULD SEE PRIME MINISTER BEGIN URGENTLY TO CONVEY FOLLOWING TO HIM
TAGS: PEPR, IS, US, UNSC, (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
To: TEL AVIV
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6ddaa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014